Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-01

INR-07 INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01

OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-01 TRSE-00 FRB-03 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 XMB-02 /101 W

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R 040912Z MAR 75 FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN TO SECSTATE WASHDC 472 INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS AMEMBASSY ANKARA AMEMBASSY CAIRO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, EWWT, EG

SUBJ: US-BELGIAN-IRANIAN LNG PROJECT

REF: A. CAIRO 2119 B. TEHRAN 869 C. ANKARA 729

1. SENIOR OFFICIAL IN NATIONAL IRANIAN GAS COMPANY'S PLANNING AND PROJECT DEVELOPMENT GRUP HAS INFORMED EMBOFF THAT EL PASO/NIGC REPRESENTATIVES HAD A GENERALLY SUCCESSFUL SERIES OF TALKS WITH OFFICIALS OF SUEZ CANAL AUTHORITY (SCA). HOWEVER, SINCE SCA HAS HAD NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE WITH LNG TANKERS PASSING THROUGH CANAL, LATTER WAS UNABLE TO GIVE DEFINITIVE QUOTATIONS ON TOLL RATES FOR TANKERS FOR EL PASO/NIGC/DISTRIGAS PROJECT. OUR SOURCE SAID THAT HE WAS MORE OR LESS OPTIMISTIC ON GETTING A REASONABLE TOLL QUOTATION FROM SCA, ADDING THAT EL PASO AND NIGC REPS WOULD PROBABLY RETURN TO CAIRO WITHIN TWO OR THREE MONTHS TIME FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS.

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2. NIGC SOURCE SAID THAT IF DISCUSSIONS WITH SCA COLLAPSED OVER

TOLL RATES, THEN GOI AND EL PASO WOULD RECONSIDER QUESTION OF PIPELINE THROUGH TURKEY. HE INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT THE TURKISH PIPELINE WAS DISTINCTLY A SECOND CHOICE. HELMS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: LPG, PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, PETROLEUM PIPELINES, JOINT VENTURES, SUEZ CANAL

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 04 MAR 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: johnsorg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TEHRAN02058

Document Number: 1975TEHRAN02058 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D750075-0338

From: TEHRAN

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750383/aaaacwot.tel

Line Count: 65

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ACTION EB

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 CAIRO 2119, 75 TEHRAN 869, 75 ANKARA 729
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: johnsorg

Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: Review Date: 29 JUL 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <24 NOV 2003 by johnsorg>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JÚL 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: US-BELGIAN-IRANIAN LNG PROJECT TAGS: ENRG, EWWT, EG
To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006